



Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

VOLUME 21 No. 1

PAGE ONE

September 1976

NEXT MEETING:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

8 PM
St. Paul's Parish House
2430 'K' Street, NW

OOM-PAH MUSC + BEER + PEOPLE = OKTOBERFEST! Saturday, October 2 is the date for the annual Foggy Bottom Association Oktoberfest. The Deutschlanders German Band will provide the music, and there will be lots of Beer—hot dogs, too. See you at St. Paul's Parking lot (rear of 2430 K Street) from 3 to 6 P.M.!

PARKING PROGRAM: Good News . . . and Bad News

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004
Walter E. Washington
Mayor

The Honorable Sterling Tucker
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
District Building
14th & E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have enclosed an amended list of streets in Foggy Bottom to be considered for designation as a Residential Permit Parking area. This list includes the 1000 block of 25th and 26th Streets, N.W., which have petitioned since the close of the public forum held on January 27, 1976. These blocks have been added to the original list that I transmitted on March 26, 1976.

Each street on the amended list has met the parking criteria and is therefore eligible for the Residential Permit Parking Program.

Sincerely yours,
Walter E. Washington
Mayor

Streets Petitioning for Residential Parking in the Foggy Bottom Area

Streets	Block(s)
22nd Street, N.W.	600
24th Street	700, 800, 900, 1000, 1100
25th Street	800, 900, 1000, 1100
26th Street	900, 1000
New Hampshire Avenue	800
F Street	2000, 2100
H Street	2400
I Street	2100, 2400, 2500
K Street	2500
M Street	2500

(Ed Note). The amended list was approved by the City Council on July 27, 1976).

However—on August 17...Mayor Walter E. Washington announced that he was taking steps to try to achieve a solution to the problems surrounding the city's proposed Residential Permit Parking program for Georgetown.

Superior Court Judge Charles W. Halleck issued a preliminary injunction the previous week to prevent the program from going into effect in Georgetown and three adjacent neighborhoods, as scheduled.

The program already is in effect in four other areas of the District. Mayor Washington said he has directed the Office of the Corporation Counsel to take whatever legal steps are necessary to bring about a rapid resolution of the problem.

In addition, until the legal issue has been clarified, the program will not be expanded. The program has been approved but not put into effect for the Capitol Hill, Sheridan-Kalorama and Foggy Bottom areas, and expansion had been approved for the existing programs in the Friendship Heights and Walter Reed areas.

Among the immediate legal steps to be taken will be to file an answer to the suit which led to Judge Halleck's injunction. The Office of the Corporation Counsel also will file a motion to assign the case to a single judge and a motion for expedited consideration of the issue.

BUT—
The program does not have to be delayed while the legality of the Georgetown area is being resolved.

Its our program. We're come this far and should not give up yet—

so—
WRITE TO MAYOR WASHINGTON and tell him to let the program be implemented in this area, while the Georgetown problem is being resolved (it may take months!).



PROGRESS ON SENIOR CITIZENS HOME

The home will be located in the 700 block of 24th Street N.W., in the rear of St. Mary's Episcopal Church on 23rd Street. The project is sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Washington.

The plot of land is now owned by the national Capital Housing Authority and will be leased to the Diocese, for a long term. It has a frontage of 183 feet on 24th Street and a depth of 122.21 feet with a total area of 22,364.21 square feet. The highest grade of this land is now approximately 14 feet above street level and this will be removed to bring the grade of the lot to the level of the street, as this will be more appropriate for a senior citizens home. After the site has been excavated, it will be necessary to build a retaining wall between the rear of St. Mary's lot and the site the home is located on.

The building will be the full length of the plot of land of 183 feet and have a depth of 52'-8" and will be 90 feet high, which is the height limit under the D.C. Code. It will contain 119 efficiency units and 20 one bedroom apartments. There will be a dining building, concealed by an attractive door. The building will set back from the front property line approximately 18 feet. Along the north end, there will be an entrance driveway to the lobby door and to enter the lower parking area. At the south end will be grass, flowers and shrubs.

The residents regret that this open space will be lost but it is not feasible that this ground should continue to be used for parking only. Harold Davitt, Mary Healy and the writer have devoted considerable time to developing a use of this ground that would be most desirable by the residents and compatible to our neighborhood. It is our belief that we have achieved that goal.

Melvin Ogden

DUES DUE! Your 1976-77 Foggy Bottom Association dues are due. See the "Are You a Member?" form in this paper.



Volunteer
needed to
deliver papers .
need car,
2-3 hours
a month.

WANTED: Production Assistants. Foggy Bottom News needs people to help with pasteup of the newspaper. Layout/pasteup experience not necessary, but helpful. Time involved: 2-3 hours (one evening per month); at the Circle Graphics shop, 25th and Penn., Ave., N.W. Interested? Call Anne Lomas at 965-2905 (eves), 692-4495 (days) or Dirck Holscher at 872-1190 (days).

Letter to the Editor

August 10, 1976

To the Editor:

In your last issue you mentioned that "in order to vote you must be a registered D.C. voter in the Republican, Democratic or D.C. Statehood party." There is one inaccuracy here, and it is mostly an inaccuracy of omission.

A person can also register to vote as an Independent for the November 2 general election. I mention this because I am running as an Independent candidate for City Council in Ward II. I appreciate your making this correction.

Sincerely,

Tim Adams
Candidate for City Council
Ward II

(Ed. Note: We regret the omission, and, as usual, have the D.C. Board of Elections to thank for the "accuracy" of their information.)

PAGE TWO SURPRISE!!

Unbeknownst to Stanley Baer, 2020 F Street, N.W., members of the FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION, WEST END CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, AND non-members who participated who we're sure will BECOME members held a "board meeting" on Monday, August 30th, to celebrate Mr. Baer's 75th birthday. James Molinelli of 2150 F Street, "called" the board meeting for that evening, inviting the officers of the boards and representatives of the Federation and the Foggy Bottom Association to participate in "discussion of mutual interest."

Mae Rapport, CPS, our parliamentarian (who planned this maneuver) was attending to give her "official" advice. It was a successful surprise as Mr. Baer was unaware until Miss Rapport moved to dispense with all business and the big beautiful cake with THREE candles (one for each quarter century) was marched in by Jimmy Chin, owner of Day Lilly.

Attending this very special "board" meeting and enjoying the dinner were Melvin Ogden, James Slicer, James Richardson, Mary Hayden, Edward W. Hase, William B. Hamback, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Young, Mr. and Mrs. James Molinelli, and Mae Rapport, CPS. What a delightful way to get to know your neighbors better!

Mae Rapport

GOOD AS GOLD!

If you have encountered our unflappable Garage man in the last week, I am sure you must have noticed the unusually broad grin he is wearing. His "baby girl," Miss Paris McWhirter, age fifteen, has brought home a gold medal which she won at the 10th annual United States youth Games at Tufts University. The Washington D.C. girls basketball team captured the championship by defeating East Orange, New Jersey. Miss McWhirter scored the second highest points in the game.

John McWhirter has been an attendant in the Potomac Plaza Garage since it opened for occupancy. Known for his courtesy, dependability, and helpfulness he is a general favorite with all of the tenants. We all join in congratulations for his "baby girl" and are proud of the fact that she came home with a gold medal, as John says, "is just like the ones given at the Montreal Olympics."

Hope Hart



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Foggy Bottom News

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The opinions expressed in this publications are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

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SEEN AROUND THE BOTTOM

● Would you believe—A BANANA TREE grown in a pot in an apartment (air conditioned no less)? I'm sure many of you have looked up at a fourth floor apartment in the Potomac Plaza and exclaimed—"Is that a Banana Tree?" Well, it is one and it belongs to Ruth and Dorothy Bacon who got it from a mail order house as a 2-inch bulb like plant with a couple of leaves peeping out. This is the way it looked in July 1972. Now it is over 5 feet tall, with a companion stalk of 3 feet.

After 3 years and 11 months, a bud appeared; and now there are 15 green bananas, with 15 more in early stages of development and prospects of 50 more bananas if all goes well. All it took was plenty of regular daily watering, lots of sunshine, and one heck of a lot of faith on Ruth's part. Dorothy and Ruth's friends and neighbors gave up a long time ago on "that ugly thing."

● Have you ever really walked THE BOTTOM, just to be walking and really drinking in its interesting aspects? Try it some time. Even though I am a native Washingtonian and really know the Bottom, I was much impressed the other evening when I walked around about 8PM.

The variety of dwellings—little houses, large houses, new houses, old houses, apartment buildings (rentals and cooperatively owned ones), banks, service stations, cleaners, beauty parlors, barbers, hotels, motels, library, churches, stores, restaurants, hospitals, parks, will astound you. IT'S ALL HERE; no need to go out of the Bottom for anything. No wonder there is a waiting list to live in the Bottom.

Some of the things that attracted me as I walked around were: the interesting roof tops of the houses around Washington Circle, up Pennsylvania Avenue, on 24th Street and on L; they truly indicate some of the history of our city. The well manicured lawn, low (security proof) hedges and flower gardens of the AAUW at 24th and G show fine community spirit. The lights of the area shining through or reflecting on the trees make for a pleasant picture. And the warmth, friendliness and good cheer emanating from the town houses made me feel good all over. The residents of these lovely houses don't seem to mind at all when you glance in on their pleasant scene.

The lovely Washington Circle Park with residents sitting and enjoying the evening, the joggers and walkers going round and round.

Renovations going on at 2417 Eye; progress on the new town houses around the Washington Circle and at 24th and New Hampshire; lovely doorways, window treatments of the town houses, homey small park on 26th Street between Eye and K; all kinds of pottery visible from the windows of the former FITZGERALD office at 26th and K (now Hinckley's); friendliness of people enjoying their walk, jog, bike ride, hurrying home with their groceries. we are truly neighborhood, sort of like a small town.

● Of course, there were some things about our neighborhood which could be improved and made much more pleasant; such as: Unkempt yards, sidewalks and tree boxes overgrown with weeds and littered with dirt; planted shrubbery and flowers overhanging the public walkways and interfering with pedestrian traffic, really dirty gutters (with wall to wall parking it is almost impossible for the city to clean them up); broken sidewalks which are a safety hazard; trash receptacles where we don't need them and none where we need them; overgrown weeds on city property; animal waste everywhere and sewer smells just about everywhere.

● Owners and renters: let's all pitch in and do our share to clean up these areas that we live in. For unoccupied areas let's call the city and get them to do their job with the owner—or themselves if they happen to be the culprit.

A new resident in our area, GUEST QUARTERS, deserves a compliment for the manner in which they are maintaining their landscaping; as well as THE PLAZA.

● METRO appears to be getting ready to do their fall housecleaning on the circular building at 26th and Va. Ave. and we plan to ask them to clean up some around their construction site at 24/23/Eye and K; also, we plan to find out the purpose of the Standpipe right in the center of the walkway on Eye between 24th and New Hampshire—be careful, don't fall over it.

The National Park Service is doing their usual good job at the Juarez Statue Park Area at Virginia and New Hampshire Avenues. All the digging and shoveling of dirt that you see is the beginning of a better drainage system. Some of the trees and bushes have been getting too much water. In addition, NPS has changed the design of the plantings and will put in large areas of ivy. Along about November 1 all the work should be done and the fall chrys-

themums planted; then we will see the results of all their work. Thanks again NPS for your constant attention.

On the other hand the District azalea parks in this same area are really gone; they just don't have the courage to up and die completely. The azaleas are badly diseased and by DC's own statement probably beyond helping. They did not get the care and feeding that they have needed this year and they are covered with weeds more often than they are neatly maintained.

We do hope that the District will give some attention to the areas; replanting colorful shrubbery requiring less maintenance than azaleas would be a good start. In the meantime weeding on a regular basis would surely help (it would help if it were done without many telephone calls from FB residents).

On my walk I discovered a new view of the Watergate, Potomac Plaza, Columbia Plaza and Peoples Life Insurance buildings. Walking southeast from 26th and Eye to 25th and H (alongside the Plaza) the view of all the lighted windows of these buildings make a lovely and interesting landscape.

● DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE is another interesting walk—and a very peaceful one. The walkways are wide, clean, even; they make a brisk walk, a lovely stroll, or a fast bike ride a real pleasure. In the evening the river is calm, canoes and boats glide by, Teddy Roosevelt Island starts your imagination working as to what lurks over there; people are everywhere—resting, reading books, talking, just sitting on the benches and grass; Georgetown glows in the distance, Kennedy Center seems to watch over the area.

All in all FOGGY BOTTOM IS A LOVELY PLACE TO LIVE—get out into the neighborhood, explore it in the DAY and in the EVENING. It is one of the safest areas in the City; don't waste all the pleasure it affords by staying indoors of an evening—get a friend and walk out—see and savor FOGGY BOTTOM.

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Foggy Bottom Farmer



With a delightful un-Washington summer coming to a close, and looking forward to the Washington never-ending autumn, we don't have our mind working in ways of assuring the bounteous glories of bloom for next spring—the spring-flowering bulbs. Plant them now, the earlier the better.

They're instant satisfaction to the "never-before" gardener or the new homeowner. Bulbs planted now can bring Snowdrops to flower while we're still shivering at the bus stop, and then all spring long a following of Crocus, Hyacinth, Narcissus, Daffodil and Jonquils; the tulips can end it with a color-crescendo.

In summer, Lilies are legion, and for fragrance and regality there is the Amaryllis.

And now there's the Autumn Crocus; we've come full circle. Autumn is an ending, yet a beginning. A few simple rules: (1) Choose a location where the bulbs need not be disturbed by succeeding plantings of the year (they need time to mature after flowering), (2) Prepare the soil well and deep; add compost and bonemeal to the root zone area, and drainage material in heavy soil, (3) Plant to a depth of about 2½ times the bulb height.

They're for balconies too- in tubs or large pots. Plant some double-deep for a succession of bloom. Paper hyacinths in a dish of pebbles are for indoor fragrance. Start in a dark closet about a month before bringing to the light.

William S. Lattin

In Our Neighborhood...

CONGRATULATIONS! to Peter and Marilyn Fischer of 25th Street on their new arrival, Tamara, born on Labor Day weekend.

MUSIC

There will be an organ recital at Western Presbyterian Church, 1906 H Street, N.W. on Sunday, October 3, 1976 at 4 p.m. given by A. Graham Down, A.R.C.M., Director of Music. He will be assisted by Patricia Ann Elliott, soprano, and Arthur Neal, bass. Works by Bach, Faure, Rheinberger and Andriessen will be heard. In honor of the Bicentennial "The Battle of Trenton" by James Hewitt will also be played.

FREE FILMS

The West End Branch Library announces its on-going series of films, which are shown each Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. The "Late Summer-Early Fall" Program begins on September 7, 1976. The library will present a wide variety of films, ranging from short-subjects, film as art, to feature length films. The films are free, and the public is invited. For more information, call 727-1397

The Fall-Winter hours for the West End Branch have been released, and take effect Monday September 13, 1976. The hours will be: 9:30 to 5:30 — Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; 1:00 to 9:00 — Tuesday and Thursday; Closed Sunday.

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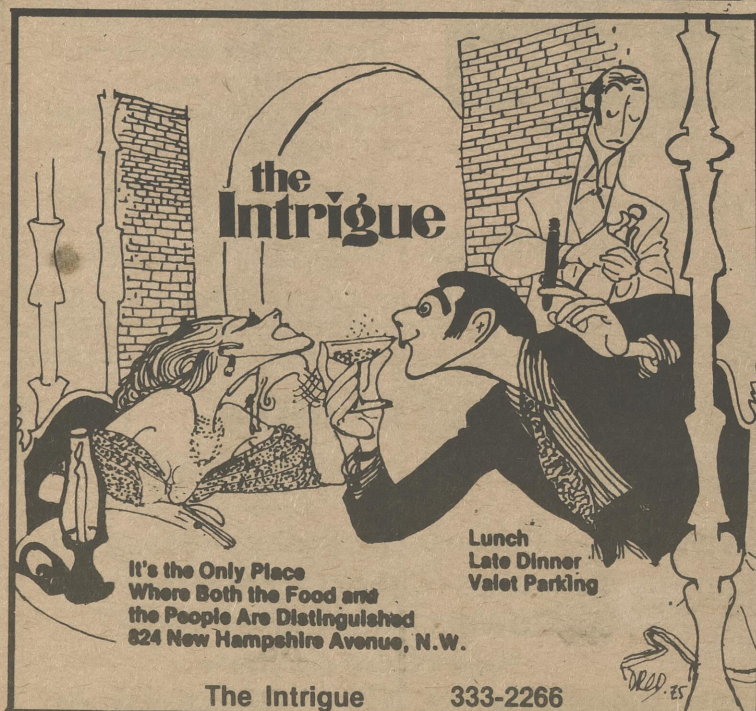
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